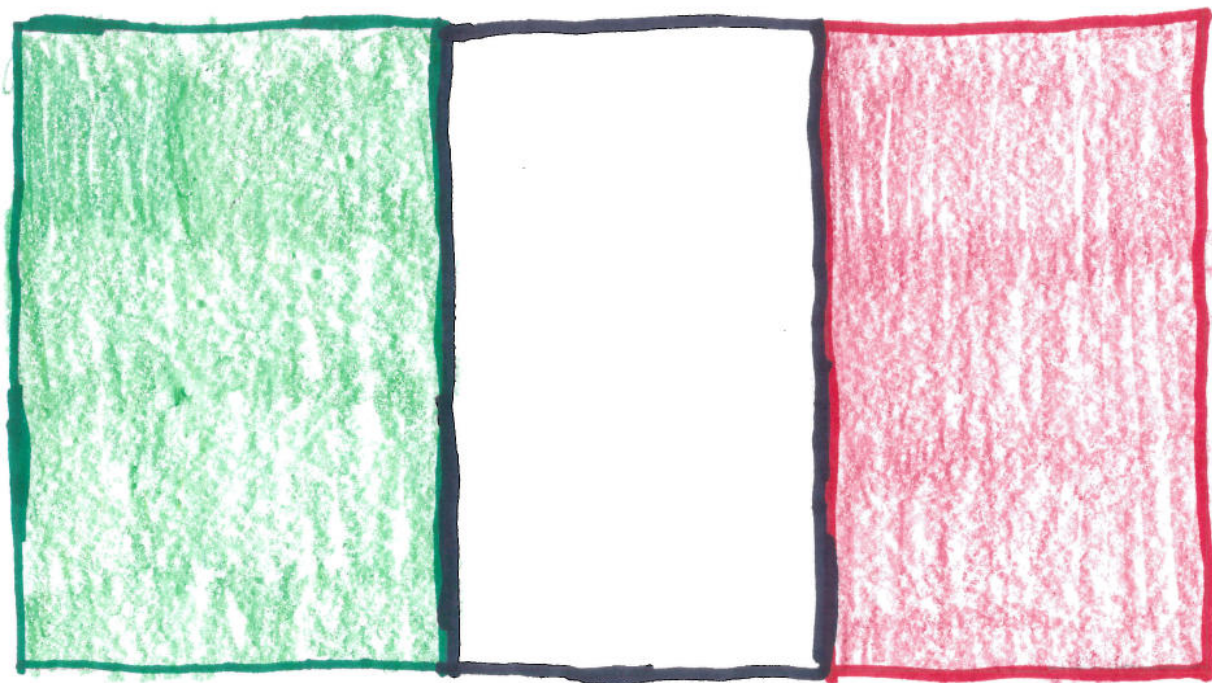


MY TRAVEL



JOURNAL

## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 1

#### Trevi fountain

Today I am visiting one of the most beautiful fountains in all of Italy. I have always wanted to toss a coin in this fountain because of the legend behind it. They say the bottom of the fountain represents the bottom of the ocean. If you toss your coin and it lands in the fountain then you will return to Rome. The proper way is to toss it backwards over your shoulder. So here goes, 1, 2, 3, plop! I did it! Now, if the legend is true, I will return to Rome.





## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 2

#### The Roman Forum

I can just imagine how busy this place must have been. The forums were used for meeting about business, selling and buying things, seeing friends, learning about the news and just plain learning. That's right school. Hey even Italy can't be perfect. There are other cities in Italy with forums but the one in Rome is the most widely visited.



## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 3

#### The Coliseum

It was originally known as the Flavian Amphitheatre and it is located just east of the Roman Forum. It has 80 arched entrances and could hold 55,000 people. It is where they held the gladiator games. Gladiators were usually slaves or prisoners and a few were women. They fought each other or animals. If the ground became too soaked with blood they would just cover it with a fresh layer of sand and continue with the performance. It gives me the shivers just to think about it. I'm glad that I never had to go to any gladiator games.





## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 4

#### The Pantheon

This place is amazing! It has thick brick walls and large marble columns but the most incredible part is the dome. This dome in fact was a huge construction problem. They had to figure out how to support its massive weight. I'm glad I didn't have that math problem. Originally a temple for all pagan gods the temple was converted into a church in 609. It now contains the tomb of the famous artist Raphael and several Italian kings.





## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 5

#### The Vatican Gardens

This place is so quiet and relaxing. As a matter of fact, it has been a place of quiet and meditation for the popes ever since 1279. So, I guess this is just how I am supposed to feel. I've never meditated before but I'll give it a try. This place is huge it has 97 fountains. Some of the spots that impressed me the most were the Papal Coat of Arms, the monument to St. Peter, and the Fountain of the Eagles.



## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 6

#### Leaning Tower of Pisa

Today I am visiting the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa which actually wasn't supposed to lean at all. It was supposed to be the bell tower for the Cathedral of Pisa. It was to hold the bells that rang to tell people when to come to church. Unfortunately, the builders were inexperienced and imitating the architecture of others without really knowing what they were doing. So they built it on soft ground, without enough foundations, and as soon as they were done it began to slowly tilt over sideways. Even today, the tower is still tilting over, little by little, though mostly people have stopped it now with reinforcements to make it stronger.





## Katie's Travel Journal

### Entry 7

#### Canals of Venice

This s-shaped waterway forms one of the major traffic corridors in the city of Venice. It's about 2 miles long and between 100 and 225 feet wide. It has an average depth of 17 feet. You can choose between water buses, private water taxis or gondolas. I chose the gondola which was very relaxing and peaceful. What a wonderful way to spend my last day in Italy. Sadly, I must say arrivederci to Italy and it's friendly people.

TI AMO ITALY!!!!!!

